



THE CORNERSTONE

Volume 20, Issue 9 & 10

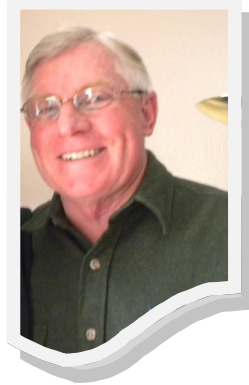
First Baptist Church Newsletter

September/October

Building Together On Christ Alone

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Gather and Scatter

As we move into September there are several exciting things happening at FBC.

The Council of Elders has been working on a multi-paged document proposing an overall evangelistic strategy for reaching more people with the gospel of Christ both locally and globally.

In September and October we will start sharing some of the ideas we have been discussing and praying about for a long time.

We have also scheduled an evangelism seminar with Jerry Larson from Spokane on Sunday, October 23. Jerry will help us learn how to more effectively build relationships and share the gospel with unsaved friends and family members.

So, September is a time to GATHER together to grow in Christ, and a time to SCATTER and share Christ with others. **Let's gather** to worship God, to learn Truth and to Share Life. Then **Let's scatter** to Serve People and Share Christ.

I encourage you to join a home fellowship Care Group so as to connect with other Christians and pray for one another and for those we know who need Jesus.

Jesus said, "Follow Me and I will make you fishers of men." (Matthew 4:19)
Fishing Together,
Pastor Wayne

AWANA IS COMING!



We are looking forward to a wonderful year of learning about our Lord and memorizing His word. We are starting on Sept. 21 Wednesday at 6:15 p.m. to 8 p.m. We will be sending out pre-registration forms to everyone who participated last year. If you have any questions please feel free to call **Laura McManus @ 541-963-5481 or Allan Duffy @541-437-1016**. We hope to see you there!

Can you help by donating snacks?: Cookies, fruit, crackers etc., 5 oz. paper cups these can be left at the church office or call and we can pick them up.



THE FAITH OF JOSEPH:

Pits and Pinnacles

Part Two

In our last newsletter, we looked at the **drama** that unfolded in Joseph's life and how he responded to betrayal and false accusation. This humble man of God responded with a God-centered faith. How did he do it? What enabled this Joseph to respond to his betrayers in a way that honored the Lord? The answer is critically important. Joseph understood the divine perspective. And he embraced a theological framework that informed his actions and attitudes.

In the biblical account, we find Joseph clinging to doctrine; in particular, the doctrine of Providence. **The 1689 Baptist Confession of Faith** summarizes this vital doctrine:

God the good Creator of all things in his infinite power and wisdom doth uphold, direct, dispose and govern all creatures and things, from the greatest even to the least, by his most wise and holy providence, to the end for which they were created, according to his infallible foreknowledge, and the free and immutable counsel of his own will, to the praise of the glory of his wisdom, power, justice, infinite goodness and mercy."

Several lessons flow from this critical statement.

First, God created all things and sustains all things (Gen. 1:1, 31; 2:18; Ps. 145:11; Prov. 3:19; Heb. 1:3; Col. 1:16-17). Simply put, God sustains what he creates. R.C. Sproul adds, "This refers to his absolute sovereignty, his eternal and inalienable right to govern and rule what he owns, and to dispose of those things according to the good pleasure of his will ... We are under his authority and control." Our God is the great Sustainer of creation! Sproul continues, "It is never arbitrary, frivolous, or capricious. He governs not according to polls or political expediency, but by his most wise and holy counsel." God governs and sustains all things by his most wise and holy providence.

Second, God exercises absolute control over all things. Isaiah 46:9-10 declares, "... Remember the former things of old; for I am God, and there is none like me, declaring the end from the beginning and from ancient times things not yet done, saying, 'My counsel shall stand, and I will accomplish all my purpose.'" God's control over all things results in peace and security in the lives of Christians. So Joseph, even in the midst of turmoil could rest in God's Providential control of all things.

Third, this control includes all creatures and their actions as well as events in the natural world. Scripture is clear:

"The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, that they should seek God, in the hope that they might feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us, for " 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, " 'For we are indeed his offspring.' " (Acts 17:24-28, ESV)

Absolutely nothing is outside the scope of God's comprehensive providence.

Next, this absolute control effects the execution of God's plan. Psalm 33:10-11 is instructive: *"The LORD brings the counsel of the nations to nothing; he frustrates the plans of the peoples. The counsel of the LORD stands forever, the plans of his heart to all generations."* (Psalm 33:10-11, ESV)

Finally, it is important to recognize that all these things manifest the glory of God.

"In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will," (Ephesians 1:11, ESV)

"so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places." (Ephesians 3:10, ESV)

"For the Scripture says to Pharaoh, "For this very purpose I have raised you up, that I might show my power in you, and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth.' " (Romans 9:17, ESV)

The Baptist Confession of Faith continues to articulate a biblical view of providence:



Summer Ministry Report

Summer is drawing to a close and fall is approaching. Here are some of the things our junior high and high school students have been involved in this summer:

Ultimate Frisbee

Every Friday we've been meeting at Riverside Park to play Ultimate Frisbee and volleyball, eat dinner, and talk about the Lord together. This was ministry started by the Martin family last summer and we've continued it this summer. The Lord has consistently brought twenty five students or more to this gathering. Our discussions this summer have focused a good deal on evangelism.

Snake River Trip

In July, as they have done for several years, the Goss' invited the high school youth group to their cabin in Richland. Cally took us tubing and we enjoyed a good time hanging out as friends and getting to know the kids better. Erin Wunz led worship for us in the evening and we shared some of our witnessing experiences with one another.

Geocaching Trip

Earlier this month some of our junior high ministry staff and students went to Hilgard State Park to barbeque, swim, and go on a Geocaching treasure hunt. It was another good way to build relationships with the kids and grow together as a church family.

Backpacking Trip

Just last week Jim Pellerin led a group of us into the Eagle Cap Wilderness. Ten of us hiked in to Aneroid Lake to camp. We scaled some peaks during the day, had some good discussions around the fire, and had a special night Friday night singing and praising the Lord together. There were several other people camped at the lake, all of whom were believers. Who would imagine that you could hike six miles into the wilderness and get to share camp with believers from Enterprise and Portland? It truly was a unique blessing from the Lord.

Summer Reading Challenge

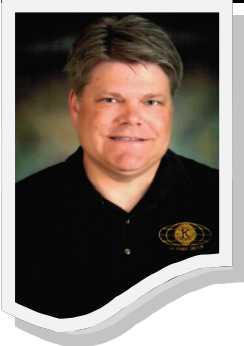
At the beginning of the summer we issued a challenge to our junior high and high school students. The challenge was that if they would thoughtfully read three Christian books from a recommended reading list and write a brief report about what they learned, we would take them to the waterpark in Boise as a reward. Alternately, the students could memorize forty verses of Scripture or read two books and memorize twenty verses. Five students successfully completed the challenge: Darren Binder, Noah McLean, Rebecca McLean, Dean Ricker, and Abbi Steele. Our trip to the waterpark is scheduled for September 3.

Finally, our fall ministry season is fast approaching. Please pray for our youth ministries for the upcoming year.

- As a staff we are asking the Lord to give us wisdom and guidance so that we might do His will and be increasingly effective in modeling and teaching kids what it means to be disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ. Pray for a truly effective ministry that bears fruit for eternity.
- Please pray for greater connection to and communication with parents as we seek to supplement their discipling ministry in the home.
- Pray for a great work of the Spirit of God in the hearts of our young people so that they would supremely desire to grow in the grace and knowledge of Christ—that the Lord would put a hunger for true godliness in them.
- Pray for a great harvest and great holiness among us.

Please pray for us. Thank you so much.

Brock



Heidi Ho

“And they were bringing children to him that he might touch them, and the disciples rebuked them. But when Jesus saw it, he was indignant and said to them, ‘Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God. Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it.’ And he took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands on them.”

Mark 10:13-16

Well, Heidi Ho Staff is ramping up for another school year with anticipation of God’s handiwork in the lives of students, parents, teachers and staff. We are so excited about this coming year as we currently have 167 students enrolled and only 171 spots available. We have added a new all day kindergarten class with Melissa Gomes as teacher and 2 new 4 year old classes with Sheena Underhill as teacher. We have also added a number of teacher aides and other support staff. Also, Lorcinda Johnston has been promoted to an Assistant Director position and continues to offer crucial support to the school’s operation. Another new item to mention besides all the paint, fixing up to the classrooms and offices, etc. is that our school is now officially state certified. Our current state worker whose name also happens to be Heidi, is a Christian and has been very impressed by our school operations and staff. I know that it is only by God’s grace that things are going so well down at Heidi Ho. Lorcinda and I have completed our fiscal budget and we are so thankful for additional donations to the school and how God has taken such good care of us.

We all recently went through 15 hours of Early Childhood Development Training and experienced a wonderful time drawing closer as a staff and learning how we can teach children more effectively. Also, we plan to continue to reach out to Heidi Ho parents and families to welcome them to First Baptist Church and to what our congregation has to offer. Our hope is that we can help families in need with parenting skills, marriage classes during Sunday School and building better relationships throughout the year. We desire to share the good news of the Gospel and offer help where there is need.

Our prayer this year is that God would be glorified in all we do and that He would bless our willingness to serve Him as humble vessels in His mission plan. Thank you all again for your continued prayers and support.

In His Service,
Don McLean
Director of Heidi Ho Christian School



Continued from page 2—Pits and Pinnacles Part two

Although in relation to the foreknowledge and decree of God, the first cause, all things come to pass immutably and infallibly; so that there is not anything befalls any by chance, or without his providence; yet by the same providence he ordereth them to fall out according to the nature of second causes, either necessarily, freely, or contingently."

Notice three important principles.

First, there is no chance in God's economy.

"The lot is cast into the lap, but its every decision is from the LORD" (Proverbs 16:33, ESV).

Think about the implications of chance in God's universe. Such a notion would inevitably lead to randomness, chaos, and purposelessness. "Mechanical fate is at the very heart meaningless, merciless, and hopeless. But the certainty of divinely ordered providence is meaningful, merciful, and hopeful," writes R.C. Sproul. He continues, "Because God controls the universe, chance is ruled out, and because it is God who controls the universe, fate is ruled out also."

Additionally, one must consider the doctrine of concurrence. Wayne Grudem explains the doctrine in simple terms: "God cooperates with created things in every action, directing their distinctive properties to cause them to act as they do." Joseph is an example of concurrence – God directs Joseph and God directs his brothers to bring a purposeful conclusion.

Note also, God's absolute sovereignty does not destroy the integrity of man's liberty. Sproul rightly says, "We are not puppets with no volition, freedom, or power, but we have no volition, freedom, or power beyond the power and freedom given to us by God." The doctrine of compatibalism teaches us that God is sovereign and we are responsible. So divine sovereignty *is* compatible with human freedom.

Finally, it is important to underscore this important reality, namely, **the doctrine of providence does not deny the operation of secondary causes.** It is true that God ordains everything that comes to pass. But God chooses to work, for the most part through means. In other words, as Jonathan Edwards reminds us, "God ordains the ends and God ordains the means."

Joseph's God-centered faith was rooted in sound doctrine. Is it any wonder that Christians who discard strong doctrinal moorings find themselves adrift and sail aimlessly to the distant shore of confusion? Joseph reminds us about the importance of theology. He reminds us that doctrine matters. May the doctrine of God's Providence strengthen and encourage us. May our faith flourish as we stand on rock solid theological truths that will supply wind for our "sails" and lead us to the celestial shores – all to the glory of God!

Pastor Dave

SEPTEMBER is FALL KICK OFF month

Wednesday, Sept. 7**Heidi Ho First Day of School****Sunday, Sept. 11****Sunday School Promotion Sunday**

Two new I.B.S. classes begin—an Apologetics/Evangelism class
Reasons for God—teacher Pastor David Steele and a
Marriage/Family “The Art of Marriage” class— teacher Brian Kruse.

September, 16-18

Blue Mountain Women’s Camp @ Camp Elkanah “Your Heart, God’s Garden”

Wednesday, Sept. 21

6:15 p.m. AWANA begins. Pre-register if possible. Registrations will be sent out and available in the church lobby soon.

Other group starting in September—Times and dates to be announced in the bulletin.

CARE GROUPS!

YOUTH GROUPS— middle school **HiLife** and High School **AMPLIFYD**



Birthday's

- 1) Sissy Garinger
Hannah Cashell
Michael Hansen
- 2) Ron Garinger
- 3) Mark DeViney
Erin Wunz
- 4) Sharon Carpenter
- 5) McKinley Kruse
- 6) Hannah Leigh
- 7) Hunter Wilcox
Mattison Wolcott
Kylie Brown
- 9) Roberta Shorb
Rebecca McLean
Kane Lester
- 12) Ted Ivester
Kennedy Kruse
- 14) Sally Barrow
- 16) Riley Kretschmer
- 17) Aiden Willey
- 19) Abbi Steele
- 20) Allan Gabler
- 21) Steve Boe
- 23) Amy Ridley
- 24) Paul Rowan
- 25) Judy Stone
Jill Moran
- 26) Mike Moran
- 27) Trent O'Neal
- 30) Matthew Pidcock

and Anniversaries...

- 4) Don and Sandy Driggers 1977
- 7) Bob and Anita Fager 1989
- 8) Russ and Tracy Cook 1973
Matthew and Dara Pickens 2007
- 22) Ralph and Marianne Bolin 1983
- 30) Ted and Maggie Ivester 1977



BIRTHDAY'S

- 1) Doris Brown
- 2) Verna Hill
- 3) Mark Kalmbach
- 10) Russ Cook
Emma Wilcox
- 11) Romayne Ricker
- 12) Laura McManus
- 14) Seth DeViney
- 17) Scott Stevens
Logan Lawrence
- 18) Lydia DeViney
James Peters
- 19) Lindsay Martin—Shelby Martin
- 22) Sam Shorb
Jan Ewing
- 23) Brenda Younker
- 24) Tom Wallace
- 26) David Steele
- 27) Rob Cashell
- 28) Ryan Garinger
Loran Ackerman
- 29) Jeri Query
- 31) Steve Bolin
Don Driggers

& ANNIVERSARIES ...

- 5) David and Gerrene Steele 1991
- 10) Jason and Rheadean Hays 1992
- 14) Paul and Connie Rowan 1978
- 25) Don and Christine McLean 1986

Please let us know if there are corrections or additions we need to make.

Pray a special prayer for these on their birthday or Anniversary



VIEW FROM THE RIDGE

This month finds us in Blue Hawaii, a half mile from the Pacific Ocean, on the third fairway of the Waikoloa Beach Resort golf course, enjoying the warm trade winds that can't seem to make up their minds whether they are going to blow East or West. With us are 13 family members and two potential for a total of 17 of us. This required my sister and brother-in-law's condo and two others and a total of four rental cars.

The fact that we were able to find a seven-day period where all could be here is a minor miracle. Having to maneuver around work schedules, school, vacation requests and personal preferences has proven to be a challenge but was not near as difficult as we anticipated. We all arrived on three different dates, and will depart on four different dates. Some are here for 8 days, some for 10 and four of us for 19 days.

The reason for all this? The spreading of my dad's ashes, which arrived on a separate flight. My sister and B-I-L missed their scheduled flight, checked the luggage with dad's ashes in it, but when they arrived in Kona, their luggage didn't. Sharon called my son Chuck, who arrived a day earlier, to tell them that they might be late to the condo because of the luggage thing. His reply was "Well, tell Grampa to get his ash over here!"

Fortunately the luggage arrived on the next flight.

Why Hawaii? Dad did not want any kind of memorial or funeral service but did want his ashes spread in the Pacific Ocean. I am sure he assumed we would spread them off Oceanside, California, where he spread my mom's ashes. But my sister and I decided that there should be some sort of family gathering to honor our dad's life and memories and to spread his ashes. Since Hawaii is a lot nicer spot than Oceanside and is in the Pacific, this is where we are doing it whether he likes it or not.

I am now the oldest in the family so I guess I am now the family Patriarch. I now have to lead this non-memorial family gathering and having no experience in this I sought the advice of our Pastors. Pastor Dave recommended a book by Phillip Keller "*A shepherd looks at PSALM 23*". It has turned out to be the very inspiration that I needed.

Keller takes the reader through David's poem and relates how the shepherd's care of his flock parallels Christ caring for His flock of God's children. There are good shepherds and bad shepherds, and Christ is the Good Shepherd. Sheep in the good shepherd flocks are healthy and prosper, but those in bad shepherd's flocks are sick, weak and poorly fed.

Continued from page 7—View from the Ridge There is another correlation that can be applied to fathers of families. We are, in effect, shepherds of small flocks of sheep. We are charged with the care and feeding, the guarding and protecting, the leading of our families to green pasture and calm waters that reduce the stresses of life so that our wives and children can live in a less stressful atmosphere. We need to pass on stories that will help them with decisions later on, pass on skills that will enable them to choose career paths, to teach them about honor, truth, morality, what is right and wrong, explain who God is, His son Jesus and His Holy Spirit, and how to obtain eternal life in Heaven.

Unlike the shepherds of the Old Testament, we do not have to depend on stories from our fathers and grand fathers to give us the instructions on how to be a good shepherd. Our heavenly father has given us a book of instructions, the Bible, that has everything that we need to shepherd our families in a Godly manner. But, we have to open it and read it; we can't get the information by osmosis.

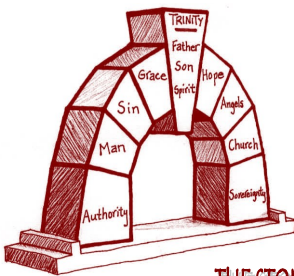
So, as I write this, I am preparing to share with my flock how our dad was a good shepherd. He loved, cared, provided, guarded, protected, fed, led, taught, disciplined, encouraged and prospered my sister and I. I could not have asked more of an earthly father. I am so thankful to my Heavenly Father for allowing me to have such great parents.

Mike Query

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